

REMARKS

The Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 filed on June 16, 2006 has been found to be non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121. In particular, the Response has been found to be non-compliant since the drawings submitted therewith were not properly labeled "Replacement Sheet", "New Sheet", or "Annotated Sheet".

Applicants disagree. Applicants respectfully submit that the two sheets containing drawings attached to the Response were not drawings of the instant application. Instead, the two sheets containing drawings were explanatory figures provided to illustrate Applicants' remarks submitted in the Response; and were provided for the convenience of the Examiner. These explanatory drawings are clearly referenced at least on pages 8 and 9 the Response; and are clearly identified as an Attachment containing two sheets of explanatory drawings on page 13 of the Response.

Accordingly, because the two sheets of explanatory drawings submitted with the Response filed on June 16, 2006 are not drawings of the instant application, and are instead a properly identified attachment to the Response, Applicants submit that the noted two sheets of drawings are not required to be labeled in the manner required by the instant Notice.

Applicants note that the Notice states that only the corrected section of the non-compliant amendment document must be re-submitted in its entirety. Accordingly, since there are no sections to be corrected in this case, no sections of the amendment are enclosed herewith. However, should the Examiner wish

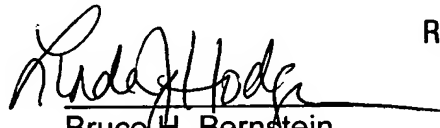
that a full copy of the previously filed amendment be supplied, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned.

Accordingly, in view of the above noted remarks, it is believed that the present response is proper and Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the determination of non-compliance, and consideration of the Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 filed on June 16, 2006, including an early indication of the allowance of all of the pending claims.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Itaru SAIDA et al.

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